

Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

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SUBJ: DRAFT INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORT ON PL-480 TITLE II
PROGRAM IN COLOMBIA

REF: A) STATE 047015, B) BOGOTA 1302

1. THE ASSUMPTION THAT A RICE FORMULA IS MORE FAVORABLE IS VALID BASED ON A NUTRITION PRICE COMPARISON WHEN GOC IS BUYING ALL COMMODITIES, WHICH OBVIOUSLY WAS NOT THE PLAN IN THE PHASE-OVER PERIOD. REF B) INDICATES THAT CHIEF REASON FOR UTILIZING THE CURRENT BIENESTARINA MIX WAS THE AVAILABILITY OF TITLE II COMMODITIES FROM THE VOLAGS AND WFP TO ALLOW A "PHASE-OVER" WHICH WOULD BE FINANCIALLY VIABLE. NEGOTIATIONS TO THIS EFFECT WERE APPROVED BY AID/W FFP IN STATE 271331. MISSION, VOLAGS, AND WFP HAVE DETERMINED A SCHEDULE WHICH CALLS FOR INCREASING GOC EXPENDITURES TO AN ANNUAL COMMODITY COST OF ABOUT \$11,000,00 U. S. DOLLARS IN FY-78. THIS WAS NOT AN EASY NEGOTIATION AND THE USAID BELIEVES THE COMMITMENT DRAWN FROM THE GOC WAS BETTER THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. THE EFFECT OF THE IG RECOMMENDATIONS WOULD FORCE GOC TO ASSUME MUCH OF THIS TOTAL COST IMMEDIATELY AND THEREBY DESTROY THE PHASE-OVER PLAN AGREED UPON BY ALL PARTIES.

2. IT IS CLEAR TO USAID THAT ALMOST ANY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD COULD USE LOCALLY PRODUCED FOODS TO PROVIDE SUPPLEMENTARY
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FOOD AT LESS TOTAL COST THAN USING TITLE II COMMODITY

SHIPMENTS. THIS OF COURSE WOULD DEPEND ON WHETHER OR NOT
IT HAD THE MONEY TO BUY THE COMMODITIES AND DISTRIBUTE
THEM.
VAKY

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